

REMARKS

**Reconsideration And Allowance  
Are Respectfully Requested.**

Claims 1 - 19 are currently pending. Claim 13 has been amended. No claims have been canceled. No claims have been added. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicant would first like to thank Primary Examiner Daryl Pope for the courtesies extended during the interview conducted on October 11, 2001. During the course of this interview, claim 13 was discussed as it relates to the prior art of record. Specifically, Applicant proposed an amended claim 13 including limitations further defining the construction of the transmitter unit to include means for regularly rechecking its position relative to the predefined safe zone and determining whether the transmitter unit is still within the safe zone. After discussing proposed amended claim 13, Primary Examiner Pope agreed that it appears to overcome the prior art of record. However, Primary Examiner Pope indicated that further consideration would be required.

With this in mind, claim 13 has been amended to define a user carried personal recovery unit. The recovery unit includes a transmitter unit carried by a user. The transmitter unit includes a transmitter case housing functional electrical components of the transmitter unit. The transmitter unit further includes means for defining a safe zone housed within the transmitter case and a transmitter activated to transmit a warning signal to a central processing center when the transmitter unit is moved beyond the safe zone. In addition, the

transmitter unit includes means for regularly rechecking its position relative to the predefined safe zone and determining whether the transmitter unit is still within the safe zone. In the event the transmitter unit determines that it is beyond the safe zone, the transmitter unit instructs the transmitter contained therein to issue a warning signal to the central processing center.

In contrast to the claimed invention, U.S. Patent No. 6,100,806 to Gaukel (Gaukel) fails to disclose a recovery unit which is activated to send a warning signal when the individual wearing the recovery unit exits a “safe zone”. Rather, Gaukel discloses a system wherein the monitoring device continually sends position information to a central tracking station. The position information is then monitored by individuals at the central tracking station to ensure that the individual wearing the monitoring component is within a designated area. The system requires continuous monitoring of the individual, which is in stark contrast to the claimed system that requires only monitoring when the individual leaves a “safe zone”. Specifically, and in an effort to define the claimed invention over Gaukel, the claimed transmitter unit includes means for regularly checking its position relative to the predefined safe zone and determining whether the transmitter unit is still within the safe zone. Only after the transmitter unit has determined that it has moved beyond the predefined safe zone, is a warning signal transmitted to a central processing center.

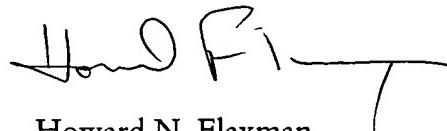
With the forgoing in mind, it is Applicant’s opinion that amended claim 13 overcomes the prior art of record and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 13 - 19 be withdrawn.

In addition, Applicant would like to thank Primary Examiner Pope for indicating the allowable subject matter found in claims 1 - 12.

Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made".

It is believed that this case is in condition for allowance and reconsideration thereof and early issuance is respectfully requested. If it is felt that an interview would expedite prosecution of this application, please do not hesitate to contact applicants' representative at the below number.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claims 13 as follows:

13. (Twice Amended) A user carried personal recovery unit, comprising:

a transmitter unit carried by a user, the transmitter unit including a transmitter case housing functional electrical components of the transmitter unit;

the transmitter unit further including means for defining a safe zone housed within the transmitter case and a transmitter activated to transmit a warning signal to a central processing center when the transmitter unit is moved beyond the safe zone; and

wherein the transmitter unit includes means for regularly rechecking its position relative to the predefined safe zone and determining whether the transmitter unit is still within the safe zone, and in the event the transmitter unit determines that it is beyond the safe zone the transmitter unit instructs the transmitter contained therein to issue a warning signal to the central processing center.